



Attorney Docket No. P177-US

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on January 16, 2003 in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

*Michelle White*  
Michelle White

PATENT RECEIVED  
JAN 23 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Gary W. Grube et al.  
Application No.: 10/087,081  
Filing Date: March 1, 2002  
For: Method Of Manufacturing A Probe Card

Examiner: Not Known  
Group Art Unit: 2812

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. and foreign patent document, and pending U.S. application (including drawings and claims), is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))  
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage  
-- OR --
- ☒ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits  
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

- ☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

- A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**
- B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

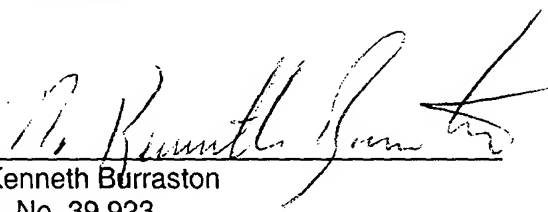
**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No.: P177-US

- ☒ *Fee Authorization.* Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P177-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 16, 2003

By:   
N. Kenneth Burraston  
Reg. No. 39,923

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Livermore, CA 94550  
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Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete If Known**

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Application Number   | 10/087,81     |
| Filing Date          | March 1, 2002 |
| First Named Inventor | Grube et al.  |
| Group Art Unit       | 2812          |
| Examiner Name        | Not Known     |
| Attorney Docket No.  | P177-US       |

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| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                        | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant | Publication<br>Date | Relevant<br>Portions |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                       |                          | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup> |                                  |                     |                      |
|                       | 1                        | 6215320              | B1                     | Parrish                          | 4/10/01             |                      |
|                       |                          |                      |                        |                                  |                     |                      |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                        | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant | Publication<br>Date | Relevant<br>Portions | T <sup>6</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|
|                       |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup> |                                  |                     |                      |                |
|                       | 2                        | WO                      | 01/09623            | A1                     | Nanonexus, Inc.                  | 2/8/01              |                      |                |
|                       |                          |                         |                     |                        |                                  |                     |                      |                |
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**OTHER PRIOR ART - NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|
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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.